

AMENDMENT  
U.S. Appln. No. 10/663,841

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (currently amended): An image-receiving sheet for electrophotography, comprising:
  - a base;
  - a resin layer;
  - a support which comprises the resin layer disposed on at least one side of the base; and
  - at least one toner-image-receiving layer over the support,
 wherein the resin layer arranged between the toner-image-receiving layer and the base contains at least one polyethylene resin having a mass-average density of 0.935 g/cm<sup>3</sup> or less, and
  - wherein the resin layer arranged between the toner-image-receiving layer and the base contains a polyethylene resin having a melt flow rate (MFR) of 11 g/10 min. or less.
2. (currently amended): An electrophotographic image-receiving sheet according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one polyethylene resin having a mass-average density of 0.935 g/cm<sup>3</sup> or less has a mass-average density of 0.925 g/cm<sup>3</sup> or less.
3. (canceled).
4. (currently amended): An electrophotographic image-receiving sheet according to ~~Claim 3~~ Claim 1, wherein the polyethylene resin having a melt

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flow rate (MFR) of 11 g/10 min. or less has a melt flow rate of 2 to 10 g/10 min.

5. (original): An electrophotographic image-receiving sheet according to Claim 1, wherein the resin layer arranged between the toner-image-receiving layer and the base contains at least two polyethylene resins having different mass-average densities.

6. (original): An electrophotographic image-receiving sheet according to Claim 1, wherein the resin layer of the support is formed by melt extrusion coating.

7. (currently amended): An electrophotographic image-receiving sheet according to Claim 1, wherein a content of ~~the~~ polyethylene resin in the resin layer arranged between the toner-image-receiving layer and the base is 60% by mass or more.

8. (original): An electrophotographic image-receiving sheet according to Claim 1, wherein the toner-image-receiving layer contains a thermoplastic resin.

9. (currently amended): An electrophotographic image-receiving sheet according to Claim 8, wherein the thermoplastic resin in the toner image-receiving layer is self-dispersing water-dispersible polyester resin emulsion which satisfies the following properties (1) to (4):

- (1) Number average molecular weight ( $M_n$ ) = 5000 to 10000;
- (2) Molecular weight distribution (weight average molecular weight/number average molecular weight)  $\leq 4$ ;
- (3) Glass transition temperature ( $T_g$ ) = 40°C to 100°C; and
- (4) Volume average particle diameter = 20 nm to 200 nm.

10. (withdrawn): An image-receiving sheet for electrophotography, comprising:

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a support; and

at least one toner-image-receiving layer over the support, wherein the toner-image-receiving layer contains a polyolefin resin.

11. (withdrawn): An image-receiving sheet for electrophotography according to Claim 10, wherein an amount of the polyolefin resin in the toner-image-receiving layer is 60 % by mass or more.

12. (withdrawn): An image-receiving sheet for electrophotography according to Claim 10, wherein the toner-image-receiving layer is formed by melt extrusion coating.

13. (withdrawn): An image-receiving sheet for electrophotography according to Claim 10, wherein the support is selected from raw paper, synthetic paper, synthetic resin sheet, coated paper, and laminated paper.

14. (withdrawn): An image-receiving sheet for electrophotography according to Claim 1, wherein a toner to be received by the toner-image-receiving layer comprises a binder resin and a colorant, wherein a volume average particle diameter of the toner is from 0.5  $\mu\text{m}$  to 10  $\mu\text{m}$  and volume average particle size distribution index (GSDv) is 1.3 or less.

15. (withdrawn): An image-receiving sheet for electrophotography according to Claim 14, wherein a ratio (GSDv/GSDn) of the volume average particle size distribution index (GSDv) of the toner to a number average particle size distribution index (GSDn) is 0.95 or more.

16. (withdrawn): An image-receiving sheet for electrophotography according to Claim 14, wherein the volume average particle diameter of the toner is from 0.5  $\mu\text{m}$  to 10  $\mu\text{m}$  and an average value of shape indices of the toner is from 1.00 to 1.50, wherein the shape index is defined by the following formula:

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$$\text{Shape index} = (\pi \times L^2)/(4 \times S)$$

wherein "L" represents a maximum length of a toner particle and "S" represents a projected area of the toner particle.

17. (withdrawn): An image-receiving sheet for electrophotography according to Claim 14, wherein the toner is manufactured by a process comprising:

(i) forming aggregated particles in a dispersion in which resin particles are dispersed, so as to prepare aggregated particle dispersion;

(ii) adding and mixing a fine particle dispersion in which fine particles are dispersed, into the aggregated particle dispersion, so as to form adhesion particles in which the fine particles adhere to the aggregated particles; and

(iii) heating and fusing the adhesion particles, so as to form toner particles.

18. (withdrawn): A process for image formation using an image-receiving sheet for electrophotography,

the image-receiving sheet comprising:

a base;

a resin layer;

a support which comprises the resin layer disposed on at least one side of the base; and

at least one toner-image-receiving layer over the support,

wherein the resin layer arranged between the toner-image-receiving layer and the base contains at least one polyethylene resin having a mass-average density of 0.935 g/cm<sup>3</sup> or less,

the process comprising the steps of:

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forming a toner image on an image-forming surface of the image-receiving sheet for electrophotography;

heating and pressurizing the toner image-bearing surface of the image-receiving sheet for electrophotography using a fixing belt and a fixing roller;

cooling the heated and pressurized toner image-bearing surface; and

removing the cooled toner image-bearing surface from the fixing belt.

19. (withdrawn): A process for image formation according to Claim 18, further comprising:

fixing the toner image by a heating roller,

wherein fixing is carried out after the step of forming and before the step of heating and pressurizing.

20. (withdrawn): A process for image formation according to Claim 18, wherein the fixing belt comprises:

a fluorocarbon siloxane rubber layer disposed over a surface of the fixing belt; and

an optional silicone rubber layer, wherein the fluorocarbon siloxane rubber layer is disposed on the silicone rubber layer.

21. (withdrawn): A process for image formation according to Claim 20, wherein the fluorocarbonsiloxane rubber layer has at least one of perfluoroalkyl ether groups and perfluoroalkyl groups in its principal chain.

22. (withdrawn): A process for image formatino using an image-receiving sheet for electrophotography,

the image-receiving sheet for electrophotography comprising:

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a support; and

at least one toner-image-receiving layer over the support, wherein the toner-image-receiving layer contains a polyolefin resin, wherein an amount of the polyolefin resin in the toner-image-receiving layer is 60 % by mass or more,

the process comprising:

forming a toner image on an image-forming surface of the image-receiving sheet for electrophotography;

heating and pressurizing the toner image-bearing surface of the image-receiving sheet for electrophotography using a fixing belt and a fixing roller;

cooling the heated and pressurized toner image-bearing surface; and

removing the cooled toner image-bearing surface from the fixing belt.

23. (withdrawn): A process for image formation according to Claim 22, wherein the image-receiving sheet for electrophotography is heated and pressurized at a temperature of from 80 °C to 110 °C by a fixing belt and a fixing roller and released from the fixing belt at a temperature of 80 °C or less.

24. (withdrawn): A process for image formation according to Claim 22, wherein the fixing belt comprises:

a fluorocarbon siloxane rubber layer disposed over a surface of the fixing belt; and

an optional silicone rubber layer, wherein the fluorocarbon siloxane rubber layer is disposed on the silicone rubber layer.

25. (withdrawn): A process for image formation according to Claim 24, wherein the

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fluorocarbonsiloxane rubber layer has at least one of perfluoroalkyl ether groups and perfluoroalkyl groups in its principal chain.